

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1, 15, and 17-22 have been amended and claim 7 has been canceled herein.

1. (Currently Amended) A nail coating composition comprising, in a cosmetically acceptable medium, microspheres and at least one film-forming substance, wherein said microspheres are chosen from uncoated ceramic microspheres, uncoated polymeric microspheres, and uncoated metal microspheres.
2. (Original) A nail coating composition according to claim 1, wherein said microspheres are present in an amount of from about 0.05% to about 15% by weight of the total composition.
3. (Original) A nail coating composition according to claim 2, wherein said microspheres are present in an amount of from about 0.1% to about 6% by weight of the total composition.
4. (Original) A nail coating composition according to claim 1, wherein said microspheres have an average diameter from about 1 micron to about 200 microns.
5. (Original) A nail coating composition according to claim 1, wherein said

microspheres have a particle size distribution of 90% below 150 microns.

6. (Original) A nail coating composition according to claim 1, wherein said microspheres are chosen from hollow microspheres and solid microspheres.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Original) A nail coating composition according to claim 1, wherein said at least one film forming substance is chosen from cellulose acetate, cellulose acetate butyrate, ethyl cellulose, vinyl polymers, nitrocellulose, nitrocellulose derivatives, acrylics, and urethanes.

9. (Original) A nail coating composition according to claim 1, wherein said at least one film forming substance is present in an amount of from about 5% to about 20%, relative to the total weight of the composition.

10. (Original) A nail coating composition according to claim 1, said composition further comprising at least one plasticizer.

11. (Original) A nail coating composition according to claim 1, said composition further comprising at least one additional film-forming substance.

12. (Original) A nail coating composition according to claim 1, said composition further comprising at least one coloring agent.

13. (Original) A nail coating composition according to claim 1, said composition further comprising at least one thixotropic agent.

14. (Original) A nail coating composition according to claim 1, said composition further comprising at least one fast drying promoting agent.

15. (Currently amended) A method for enhancing the gloss of a nail coating composition, said method comprising applying to a nail surface a base coat composition comprising microspheres having an average diameter ranging from about 1 to about 12 microns, with a median diameter of less than 10 microns, wherein said microspheres are chosen from uncoated ceramic microspheres, uncoated polymeric microspheres, and uncoated metal microspheres, and at least one film-forming substance, and then applying a nail enamel top coat.

16. (Original) A method according to claim 15, wherein said nail enamel top coat comprises a coloring agent.

17. (Currently amended) A method for filling ridges in or smoothing out a nail surface, said method comprising applying to said nail surface a nail coating composition comprising microspheres having an average diameter ranging from about 1 to about 40 microns, with a median diameter ranging from 20 to 3.5 microns, wherein said microspheres are chosen from uncoated ceramic microspheres, uncoated polymeric microspheres, and uncoated metal microspheres, and at least one film-forming substance.

18. (Original) A method for providing texture or a matte finish to a nail surface, said method comprising applying to said nail surface a nail coating composition comprising microspheres having an average diameter ranging from about 50 to about 150 microns, with a median diameter of greater than 60 microns, wherein said microspheres are chosen uncoated microspheres, uncoated polymeric microspheres, and uncoated metal microspheres, and at least one film-forming substance.

19. (Original) A method for protecting a nail surface, said method comprising applying to said nail surface a nail coating composition which comprises, in a cosmetically acceptable medium, microspheres chosen from uncoated ceramic microspheres, uncoated polymeric microspheres, and uncoated metal microspheres and at least one film-forming substance.

20. (Currently amended) A nail coating composition for enhancing the gloss of a nail enamel top coat, wherein said composition contains microspheres of average diameter ranging from about 1 to about 12 microns, with a median diameter of less than 10 microns, wherein said microspheres are chosen from uncoated ceramic microspheres, uncoated polymeric microspheres, and uncoated metal microspheres, and at least one film-forming substance.

21. (Currently amended) A nail coating composition for filling ridges in or smoothing out a nail surface, wherein said composition contains microspheres of average diameter ranging from about 1 to about 40 microns, with a median diameter of ranging from 20 to 35 microns, wherein said microspheres are chosen from uncoated ceramic microspheres, uncoated polymeric microspheres, and uncoated metal microspheres and at least one film-forming substance.

22. (Currently amended) A nail coating composition for providing texture or a matte finish to a nail surface, wherein the composition contains microspheres of average diameter ranging from about 50 to about 150 microns, with a median diameter of greater than 60 microns, wherein said microspheres are chosen from uncoated ceramic microspheres, uncoated polymeric microspheres, and uncoated metal microspheres, and at least one film-forming substance.

23. (Original) A nail coating composition comprising a mixture of microspheres and an aqueous dispersion of at least one film-forming substance.

24. (Original) A nail coating composition according to claim 23, wherein said at least one film-forming substance is present in an amount of about 3% to about 50% relative to the total weight of the composition.